

DATE Jan 16, 2013HB 6

John Brenden &lt;senatorbrenden@gmail.com&gt;

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**Favor to ask**

4 messages

**Patrick Gilchrist** <pgilchri79@yahoo.com>

Mon, Jan 7, 2013 at 4:59 PM

Reply-To: Patrick Gilchrist &lt;pgilchri79@yahoo.com&gt;

To: John Brenden &lt;senatorbrenden@gmail.com&gt;

Cc: Ann Kulczyk &lt;booboo1676@yahoo.com&gt;, Josh Sand &lt;sparky@nemontel.net&gt;, Dale and Donna Borgen &lt;elcorderl@nemont.net&gt;, John Kulczyk &lt;montana\_man1963@yahoo.com&gt;, Rob Brunelle &lt;robert@cwimt.net&gt;, Charles Romo &lt;iamlost@nemont.net&gt;

Dear Senator Brenden,

I would like to thank you again for the letter of support you wrote out subdivision when we applied for a DNRC Renewable Resource Grant to help repair and improve the Sunny Hills Water System. We all are aware of the support you gave us and are very appreciative.

We recently found out our grant application was ranked 72nd out of 96 applications. Historically the legislature allocates funding for the first 60 grants, so we are just out of the money. We have heard credible rumors that unused funds from previous years have become available for the grants, and that we have a decent shot of receiving funding on our request. We have been granted an opportunity to testify for a total of five minutes before the Long Range Planning committee in Helena. Asking around on what our best approach is, we heard unanimously that the best thing we could do would be to have our local representation testify on our behalf, as the committee is more apt to be swayed by and to remember their testimony. Thus, I was wondering if you would be available to testify on our behalf. We are currently scheduled to testify on the 16th of January, although this is subject to change. I would be happy to supply you with pertinent information regarding our needed improvements and repairs and will make sure to keep you posted on the details of the meeting. A member of the subdivision and state employee will also be in Helena during this time and would be happy to assist you in any way you require.

Thank you,

Patrick Gilchrist and the Board of Directors for the Sunny Hills Water District

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**John Brenden** <senatorbrenden@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 14, 2013 at 3:22 PM

To: Patrick Gilchrist &lt;pgilchri79@yahoo.com&gt;

Patrick—I will be there—send me some short, quick bullets for the meeting. John Brenden

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Patrick Gilchrist** <pgilchri79@yahoo.com>

Tue, Jan 15, 2013 at 8:57 AM

Reply-To: Patrick Gilchrist &lt;pgilchri79@yahoo.com&gt;

To: John Brenden &lt;senatorbrenden@gmail.com&gt;

Senator Brenden,

I can't thank you enough. We really appreciate your ongoing support. Below are a few talking

points. I will also like to forward on a brief letter from our district president in a separate email later on today, if you would be willing to read it for the record.

The meeting is tomorrow the 16th at 8 am in Room 317 B at the Capital.

Thanks again,

Patrick Gilchrist and the residents of Sunny Hills Subdivision

- In 1979 the Sunny Hills Suburban Water system Northwest of Glasgow was improperly installed causing frequent leaks and both volume and pressure issues and has the very real potential for catastrophic failure
- The frequent leaks have caused numerous positive bacteria tests over the last few year, resulting in extensive and very expensive additional testing to ensure the safety of our drinking water.
- Removing the bacteria from the system involves "shocking" the system with high concentrations of chlorine, making the water unusable for several days.
- Leaks are difficult to detect due to local geology. Leaks often go undetected for years, wasting massive amounts of water, energy resources and wear and tear on our system.
- Pressure is so low at the top of the subdivision that people have to run booster pumps that are not compliant with DEQ regulations.
- The Milk River Basin is closed to new water rights, so Sunny Hills has to maximize the ability of one undersized well.
- 44 people, including 17 children impacted are by these water problems. Bacteria in drinking water is especially hazardous the children and the elderly.
- As the system continues to limp along, citizens of Sunny Hills live under the threat of additional development driven by the nearby Bakken oil boom.

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**From:** John Brenden <senatorbrenden@gmail.com>  
**To:** Patrick Gilchrist <pgilchri79@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 14, 2013 3:22 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Favor to ask  
[Quoted text hidden]

*John R. Kuehly  
Pres - Sunny Hills H2O*

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**Patrick Gilchrist** <pgilchri79@yahoo.com>  
**Reply-To:** Patrick Gilchrist <pgilchri79@yahoo.com>  
**To:** John Brenden <senatorbrenden@gmail.com>

Tue, Jan 15, 2013 at 9:35 AM

Please see the attached letter from the board president.

Thanks again for all the support,  
Patrick Gilchrist

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**From:** John Brenden <senatorbrenden@gmail.com>  
**To:** Patrick Gilchrist <pgilchri79@yahoo.com>  
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